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Looking Good in Lamorinda

By Moya Stone



Fashion items available at Glamorous Boutique in Lafayette Photos Moya Stone

Eliza Jamkochian from Glamorous Boutique in Lafayette says, "There are so many options now" for this year's fall fashions. But to narrow it down, Lamorinda ladies are enjoying Jamkochian's new daywear additions, including denim jeans and jackets, cotton T-shirts, and comfy cotton sweaters. Cocktail dresses and simple straight-line day dresses are still staples for the store and Jamkochian tells me that lace is big as are animal prints, "denim on denim is huge" and get ready for it ... cigarette pants! You can see for yourself what Glamorous Boutique has to offer at the upcoming Ladies Night event from 5 to 9 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 19.

New fashions need new lipsticks. Right? Bluemercury beauty store in Lafayette says that mauve is what's trending in lip color. An off-pink shade, mauve is a refreshing alternative to the usual reds and berries we see this time of year. For a complete new makeup look, Bluemercury is having a Fall Beauty Festival Oct. 19-22. Stop by the store for details, 3543 Mount Diablo Blvd., Lafayette.

For the guys this season, Venture in Lafayette says it's all about the sock. Store manager, Perry, calls them spicy socks and explains that guys are continuing to sport colorful patterned socks with their conservative attire to show some personality. Also popular for Lamorinda fellas this fall are all-over print Oxford shirts and stretch jeans.

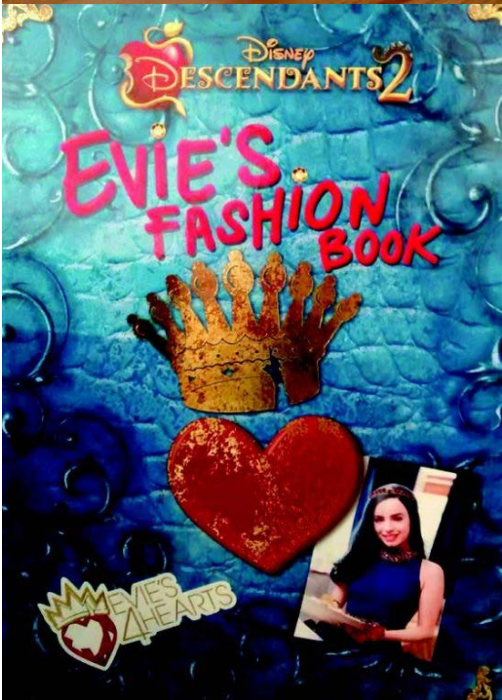
Bel and Bunna's bookstore in Lafayette stocks many a fashion book for young fashionistas. According to store owner Clarabell McNeill, one of the biggest sellers is "Descendents 2: Evie's Fashion Book," a close-up look at the many costumes featured in the popular Disney movie. Another favorite is "The Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them Fashion Sketchbook," an activity book inspired by the 1920s fashions in the film based on JK Rowling's fantasy novel. Additionally there are vintage fashion coloring books and "Build Your Own Superheroes Sticker Book." McNeill reminds us that she is happy to special order any book.

Speaking of books, fall is perfect for mysteries. My latest read is a fashionable mystery by New York Times bestselling author and fashion journalist Plum Sykes. "Party Girls Die in Pearls" (Harper Books) is set in 1985 in Oxford, England where college roommates Ursula Flowerbutton and Nancy Feingold stumble upon the dead body of India Brattenbury (even the names are stylish) their well-dressed glamorous classmate. Of course the pair must solve the murder mystery and away we go on an English adventure full of humor and cultural references not to mention lots of fashion detail. I particularly appreciate the nod to pearls given that it's the jewelry trend of the season.

Calling all hat lovers! There are a few more days left to see Degas, Impressionism and the Paris Millinery Trade at the Legion of Honor in San Francisco. This popular exhibit is an exploration of hats in Paris reflected in the works of impressionists including Degas, who himself came from a fashion oriented family, Renoir, Cassatt, Monet, and Toulouse-Lautrec among others. Each of these artists took an interest in the making of hats and the women who wore them. Among the 40 works of art are images of milliners at work, hat shops, and women in conversation donning spectacular chapeaux often draped in ribbons or topped with colorful plumes. You can see the exhibit through Sept. 24.

Enjoy the new fall threads and go forth in style!

(Moya Stone is a fashion writer and blogger at overdressedforlife.com.)



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